

1 on weekends, after hours, was court in session?
2 We need to know.

3 MR. EDENFIELD: If you know the answer to
4 the question, you have to answer.

5 THE WITNESS: Okay. Here we go.

6 MR. HILL: I want to make sure everybody
7 can hear. And I'm not trying to be voyeuristic.

8 GRAND JUROR: His name, please?

9 MR. HILL: I'm sorry. State your name
10 for the record.

11 MR. EDENFIELD: Mike Edenfield,
12 E-D-E-N-F-I-E-L-D.

13 GRAND JUROR: Repeat that, please.

14 MR. EDENFIELD: Mike or Michael
15 Edenfield, E-D-E-N-F-I-E-L-D.

16 GRAND JUROR: Okay, thank you. And the
17 confidentiality of everything in here pertains
18 to him as well?

19 MR. EDENFIELD: Absolutely.

20 MR. HILL: Absolutely. Absolutely. In
21 fact, we'll do it after the fact. I don't
22 think -- it will be on the record that he, too,
23 will take the oath of secrecy before he leaves
24 here. But he's welcome. The rules call for it.
25 I think it's a good, good rule.

1 BY MR. HILL (resuming):

2 Q Sylvia?

3 A Okay. Here we go. All right. She --
4 I'm going to be jumping all around because there's just
5 no, like, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, but as she told me
6 things that happened.

7 One, he wanted -- he was talking at a
8 point he wanted to have a pole installed in his office
9 so that she could dance on the pole like you do in a
10 strip club. Okay. And they was laughing about how
11 they were going to justify to the Court Administrator
12 how they would have this put in, but he wanted that.

13 I was told that at one point he wanted
14 her to go out on a boat and pose nude, and that someone
15 would be out there to take pictures. He always wanted
16 her to wear his robe without no clothes on underneath
17 because he wanted her to feel the power that this robe
18 had.

19 He had bought -- he had a sofa brought
20 into the office so that they could have sex on the
21 sofa. They went -- he had a place up in -- up near
22 Gainesville that they'd go away for the weekend and up
23 there and have sex. She would go away with him when he
24 went to teach some law courses up at Florida State.
25 Oh, Lordy. There was times that -- oh.

1 MR. EDENFIELD: Anything you know.

2 A Okay. I'm all right. There was times
3 that he would -- that he would be sitting in his -- in
4 his chair behind his desk, not his private office but
5 in the conference room, with his genitals hanging out.

6 There was times that he would come up
7 behind her and rub himself up against her with his
8 genitals out. And this was here in the conference
9 room. She'd be washing dishes. There's a little sink
10 in there. She told me about that.

11 They were always together. I mean, they
12 were here after hours late. They were here together on
13 weekends late. Every time I left they were here
14 together. They went out -- they would go and work out
15 together at the SOC, exercise.

16 Oh. He -- he enjoyed wearing her T-back
17 underwear. He thought that was really great. I can't
18 remember --

19 Q Most of these activities we're
20 describing, it's easy to distinguish those that are
21 not, but most of them occur in the judge's chambers?

22 A Correct.

23 Q What was the frequency --

24 A Oh.

25 Q -- of some type of sexual contact between

1 them as relayed to you?

2 A It was going on all the time. He -- oh,
3 God. He -- they -- he wanted her to give him oral sex.
4 And he thought it was a big thrill to be doing this
5 while we were having court next door when I was with
6 Judge Holder.

7 And this would be like -- this would be
8 after hours. We'd be having a civil trial next door.
9 They would be next door. They would be in the closet.
10 He'd put her in the closet so that way nobody could
11 hear anything. Just all kinds of things.

12 Q All right. These are things that you
13 would not know about had she not related them to you;
14 is that right?

15 A No.

16 Q Can you think of anything that you
17 reminded her of that jogged her memory?

18 A Are you talking about sexual or
19 non-sexual?

20 Q Doesn't matter. Anything that might be
21 inappropriate.

22 A There was an incident about campaign
23 funds. Are you referring to that?

24 Q No, I want to go there. I want to go
25 there right now. Talk about it.

1 A I was supposed to -- there was a check
2 that was for the Sheriff's campaign funds. And this
3 check was dated wrong because the Sheriff had not
4 opened his account yet in the bank, so that a new check
5 had to be cut for the campaign funds.

6 And I was going to be the one that they
7 were going to send to get the check. Mike Sheehan was
8 going to drive me down, and I was going to run and pick
9 up the check. I did not pick up the check.

10 I had court that day with Judge Holder so
11 I don't know who went down and got the check. I
12 remember that there was a list of a whole bunch of
13 names on a legal list. And I remember Judge
14 Ficarrotta, Gaspar Ficarrotta, telling that this one
15 was good for this, this one was good for that, that we
16 can get money from this one and money from that one.

17 Q All right. I want to slow down and kind
18 of work my way through this. It sounds like Judge
19 Ficarrotta and the Sheriff are friends?

20 A Correct.

21 Q So the judge decided to help with some
22 fundraising activities; is that what I'm hearing?

23 A I don't -- I don't know if the Sheriff
24 knew about this that the judge was doing that. I don't
25 know.

1 Q I'm not suggesting the Sheriff knew
2 anything about that.

3 A Oh, I know. I know. That part I don't
4 know. But he was --

5 Q But the judge decided to raise money for
6 him?

7 A Yes, he was.

8 Q All right. The check that you're talking
9 about, was that a check that was in the judge's
10 chambers, in the judge's offices?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Who was the check from?

13 A It was going to be from Gary Trombley.

14 Q What was the amount of the check?

15 A I have no idea. I know it was a large
16 sum of money. I don't know if it was \$500 or
17 between -- it was between \$250 and \$500, but I can't
18 remember what the amount -- what the amount was.

19 Q And it was made payable to the Sheriff's
20 campaign fund?

21 A Correct.

22 Q Did the judge have other campaign checks
23 in the office?

24 A Not to my knowledge. I just know about
25 that one check.

1 Q Who talked with you about going to either
2 return or pick up that check and get it straightened
3 out, the judge?

4 A The judge was there, Mike Sheehan was
5 there, and Tara Pisano was there, and I was there.

6 Q And the problem with it was that no
7 campaign fund had been established; there was no place
8 to put the check?

9 A Right, because the date on the check was
10 wrong. So they had to re-cut a new check with a new
11 date so that it could be deposited when he opened up
12 his campaign. I think the date on the check was
13 before -- was dated before the campaign fund was
14 opened, so therefore it could not be put in the bank.

15 Q Okay. And then you saw a list of
16 lawyers?

17 A A list of different people, but I can't
18 tell you the names on that list.

19 Q I understand. But this is a list that
20 you saw?

21 A Correct.

22 Q Where did you see this list?

23 A It was in -- it was -- Gaspar had it. It
24 was on a legal pad.

25 Q Was it in his handwriting as far as you

1 know?

2 A I don't know. I don't know if it was in
3 Tara's and his, you know, names because I had been in
4 there when they would think of names together and they
5 would both write. He would write some; she would write
6 some as they were thinking who they could get money
7 from.

8 Q Are you aware of money having been taken
9 other than that check you've talked about in the
10 judge's chambers?

11 A I was -- I heard that there was --
12 supposedly there was large sums of money, cash,
13 somewhere in Gaspar Ficarrota's office. I heard there
14 was a safe deposit box that him and Mike Sheehan or a
15 storage unit or somewhere where there was large sums of
16 money, of cash. I have no idea where it was. This was
17 just what I heard.

18 Q Was Mike --

19 A It was told to me.

20 Q -- Mike Sheehan good friends with Judge
21 Ficarrota, I gather?

22 A Yes. Yes.

23 Q Okay. Were you aware of the judge making
24 phone calls from his chambers soliciting funds for the
25 Sheriff?

1 A I was there when they had called to get
2 money.

3 Q Who were they calling?

4 A Attorneys, attorney firms.

5 Q Who is "they"?

6 A Tara or -- it was either Tara or Gaspar.
7 Both of them would do it. Tara would do a lot of
8 calling for Gaspar.

9 Q Can you give us the substance of a
10 typical phone call? "Hello, this is Tara Pisano," or,
11 "Hello, this is Gaspar Ficarrotta"? Just kind of
12 repeat one for us. And I understand it's not going to
13 be verbatim.

14 A I don't really remember. I can't really
15 remember. I just know that they would make calls and
16 say, you know, that this and this and this or whatever,
17 and we need X amount. It was basically -- and large
18 sums of money were being given.

19 I mean, these attorneys would give large
20 sums of money. We're not talking 25, \$50. Some of
21 them were. We're talking, you know, two, three, four,
22 \$500. It just depends on the firm.

23 Q Were these attorneys that were practicing
24 before Judge Ficarrotta?

25 A I don't know. I don't know.

1 Q Over what period of time did this occur?

2 A All I know is from the time that I came
3 into their little group that I know about, you know,
4 that I started having breakfast and that type of thing
5 with them before I would go and -- go to court with my
6 judge.

7 Q Was it still going on to your knowledge
8 when Tara Pisano and Judge Ficarrotta broke off that
9 social relationship?

10 A I have no idea. Because once that was
11 over with, I never went in there anymore.

12 Q Was it going on up to that point in time?

13 A It was going up to the point of it was
14 time for Sheriff Henderson to start up his campaign.

15 Q All right. Judge Ficarrotta and Judge
16 Bonanno friends?

17 A I -- I really don't know. I know that
18 when I was down there Judge Ficarrotta used to make fun
19 of Judge Bonanno all the time. But he was not -- he
20 didn't come down there to that office.

21 In other words, he stayed down on his
22 end. And he was never in there unless he came in there
23 when I wasn't in there. But he wasn't one of the
24 people that hung around in there all the time.

25 So, I mean, he used to -- he talked badly

1 of him, he made fun of him. But I don't know, as
2 friends, I don't know how close they were.

3 Q Okay.

4 A I know he would go down there and talk to
5 him on a friendly basis.

6 Q On a frequent basis?

7 A No, not on a frequent basis. But I had
8 been down there a couple times. Said let's go down to
9 see Judge Bonanno, and we would go down and see Judge
10 Bonanno.

11 Q Judge Ficarrotta had an office, and I
12 know there's more than one but there are many, that the
13 typical key wouldn't fit; is that correct?

14 A His office. We can't -- no bailiff has a
15 key to get -- except I don't know whether his bailiff
16 has a key, which I think his bailiff does. But the
17 rest of us, no, we cannot get into that office.

18 Q Well, we understand why.

19 A Just -- no, I'm serious. And even now
20 you cannot get in there.

21 Q Were there other things that you can
22 recall that Tara Pisano shared with you that she was
23 putting in her journal?

24 A Well, some things about she feared for
25 her job, the sex, the campaign funds, the monies. I

1 can't remember right now. I'm thinking hard, too.

2 Q She told you -- I doubt that she sat down
3 one time and said, "Hey, here's what's in my journal."
4 She would tell you this over time?

5 A No, what -- how it all came about, she
6 didn't tell me nothing in the beginning when she
7 started writing all of this. She didn't want me to
8 know anything. She thought it would be better for me
9 not to know anything.

10 And then it got to the point that she
11 needed someone to talk to. And over a period of time
12 she has told me little bits here and there what's in
13 there. I have never read her notes.

14 Q I know.

15 A And she told me after all this was over
16 with if I wanted to read her notes, that she would let
17 me read them.

18 Q Did she seem to feel better when she was
19 discussing with you what was in that journal? Did it
20 appear there was just something off her chest?

21 A Yes. There was days that she was really
22 depressed and that she had someone to talk to.

23 Q And those were the days that she would
24 reveal --

25 A Uh-huh.

1 Q -- those contacts?

2 A As time has gone on she has revealed, you
3 know, talked to me more about things.

4 Q That are in the --

5 A I don't know. I don't know some of that
6 stuff, like, the one thing about the boat and all that,
7 I don't know if that's in there. I don't know if the
8 pole's in there. I mean, this is just things that she
9 thought about that she told me. That I really do not
10 know.

11 Q Okay. I want to be just a little more
12 specific, and you've done a great job of recollection,
13 good memory. She told you, obviously, about the
14 installation of the pole and about the boat. Those
15 were the first two things she mentioned.

16 Then she told you that in her journal was
17 information about the judge wanting her to wear the
18 robe while she was nude underneath it and feel the
19 power?

20 A Okay. Now, all this stuff that I've told
21 you is things that she's told me, but I don't know
22 exactly what she has written in that journal. The pole
23 I'm pretty sure -- I don't think that -- this is like
24 things that went on that she told me about. Now, the
25 thing about the robe, yes, she told me that was in the

1 definitely.

Okay. And what did she say about the
what was purchased?

A I believe that's in there also.

5 Q You would only know that if she told you
6 that. What about going to Gainesville on weekends?

7 A I think that's in there. Not every
8 weekend but, you know, certain times going up there.

9 Q What about the judge exposing himself
10 while sitting in his chair?

11 A I think that's in there, too.

12 Q And rubbing up against her when she
13 was --

14 A I think that's in there, too.

15 Q And wearing the T-back?

16 A That's in there, too.

17 Q And the oral sex?

18 A That's in there, too.

19 Q And the safety deposit box or the cash?
20 Well, you saw that yourself probably?

21 A No, I didn't see. No, that's just
22 hearsay that she's told me.

23 Q All right. And she's put that in her
24 journal?

25 A I think so.

1 Q And the outside storage unit?

2 A I think so.

3 Q The information about Mike Sheehan kind
4 of as a bag man going to pick up money and so forth?

5 A That's in there.

6 Q The names on the contributor list, for
7 lack of a better word?

8 A I don't know. I'm sure it is. I mean,
9 it seemed very relevant that it is.

10 Q All right. You can state with certainty
11 that some things are in there. It is your belief that
12 some of these other things are in there, and there's a
13 couple of them?

14 A The part about her son, I know that's in
15 there. That he -- "Don't ever turn your back on your
16 child," I know that's in there.

17 The thing about the pole and the boat,
18 that came -- that she told me about was further down
19 the road. That was just the first two things when you
20 start. Just, you know, the chronology wasn't in order.

21 Q Are you aware of an incident where -- now
22 Tara's husband also works for the Sheriff's Office,
23 right?

24 A That's correct.

25 Q Are you aware of an incident, and it may